

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A trackable optical disc, comprising:  
a first reflective surface comprising a wobble groove trackable by an optical disc reader; and  
a plurality of analyte-specific signal elements disposed readably with said wobble groove, said plurality of analyte-specific signal elements arranged in a pattern to thereby function as encoded data,  
wherein said plurality of analyte-specific signal elements are disposed substantially confocally with said wobble groove such that they are readable by an optical head of the optical disc reader concurrently with said wobble groove.
2. (Previously Presented) The trackable optical disc of claim 1 wherein said plurality of analyte-specific signal elements and said wobble groove are disposed to produce a signal readable by a single optical pickup of the optical disc reader.
3. (Canceled)
4. (Canceled)
5. (Canceled)
6. (Canceled)
7. (Canceled)
8. (Canceled)
9. (Previously Presented) The trackable optical disc of claim 1 wherein said wobble groove is radially disposed.
10. (Canceled)
11. (Canceled)
12. (Canceled)
13. (Canceled)
14. (Canceled)
15. (Canceled)
16. (Canceled)
17. (Canceled)

**Appl. No.** : **09/311,329**  
**Filed** : **May 11, 1999**

18. (Previously Presented) The trackable optical disc of claim 1 wherein said plurality of analyte-specific signal elements are disposed with said wobble groove such that a signal from an analyte-specific signal element of said plurality of analyte-specific signal elements is detectable as an amplitude variation in an HF signal generated by tracking said wobble groove with a laser from an optical disc reader reading said optical disc.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Canceled)

21. (Canceled)

22. (Canceled)

23. (Canceled)

24. (Canceled)

25. (Previously Presented) The trackable optical disc of claim 1 further comprising a first solid substrate, said first reflective surface and said wobble groove being disposed upon the same side of said first solid substrate.

26. (Canceled)

27. (Canceled)

28. (Previously Presented) The trackable optical disc of claim 25 wherein said plurality of analyte-specific signal elements are disposed on said first reflective surface of said disc substrate on the side of said first reflective surface opposite of said first solid substrate.

29. (Canceled)

30. (Canceled)

31. (Previously Presented) The trackable optical disc of claim 25 further comprising a light transmissible coating applied to said first reflective surface opposite of said first solid substrate, wherein said plurality of analyte-specific signal elements are disposed upon said light transmissible coating on the side of the light transmissible coating opposite to said first reflective surface. ,

32. (Previously Presented) The trackable optical disc of claim 1 wherein said first reflective surface holographically projects a readable image of said wobble groove when illuminated.

33. (Canceled)

**Appl. No.** : **09/311,329**  
**Filed** : **May 11, 1999**

34. (Canceled)
35. (Withdrawn) An optical disc assembly having readable nonoperational data, comprising:
- a trackable optical disc according to claim 1, and
  - a laser-refracting cover;
  - wherein said cover further focuses the laser of said optical disc reader on said disc's first reflective surface.
36. (Previously Presented) An optical disc assembly, comprising:
- a trackable optical disc according to claim 1; and
  - a laser-refracting cover attached to said optical disc that focuses light from a laser of said optical disc reader on said first reflective surface of said trackable optical disc.
37. (Canceled)
38. (Withdrawn) The optical disc assembly of claim 35, wherein said cover is nonintegral to said disc and attachable thereto.
39. (Withdrawn) The optical disc assembly of claim 38, wherein said cover is reversibly attachable to said disc.
40. (Withdrawn) The optical disc assembly of claim 35, wherein said cover is moveably attached to said disc.
41. (Withdrawn) The optical disc assembly of claim 40, wherein said cover is hingeably attached to said disc.
42. (Withdrawn) The optical disc assembly of claim 35, wherein said cover consists essentially of a material selected from the group consisting of plastic and glass.
43. (Withdrawn) The optical disc assembly of claim 42, wherein said cover consists essentially of plastic.
44. (Withdrawn) The optical disc assembly of claim 43, wherein said cover consists essentially of polystyrene.
45. (Withdrawn) The optical disc assembly of claim 43, wherein said cover consists essentially of polycarbonate.
46. (Withdrawn) The optical disc assembly of claim 35, wherein said assembly has a radial diameter between 110 - 130 mm and a depth between 1.1 - 1.3 mm.

**Appl. No.** : **09/311,329**  
**Filed** : **May 11, 1999**

47. (Withdrawn) The optical disc assembly of claim 35, wherein said nonoperational feature is disposed upon the laser-distal side of said cover.

48. (Withdrawn) The optical disc assembly of claim 36, wherein said nonoperational feature is disposed upon the laser-distal side of said cover.

49. (Canceled)

50. (Withdrawn) A trackable optical disc having readable nonoperational data, comprising:

a first reflective surface;

a second reflective surface;

and

a data-encoding nonoperational feature,

wherein said first or second reflective surface has an attribute trackable by an optical disc reader and said nonoperational feature is disposed readably with said trackable attribute.

51. (Withdrawn) The trackable optical disc of claim 50, wherein said nonoperational feature and said trackable attribute are readable by the same optical pickup.

52. (Withdrawn) The trackable optical disc of claim 50, wherein said nonoperational feature is readable concurrently with said trackable attribute.

53. (Withdrawn) The trackable optical disc of claim 52, wherein said nonoperational feature and said trackable attribute are readable by the same optical pickup.

54. (Withdrawn) The trackable optical disc of claim 50, wherein said second reflective surface is semireflective.

55. (Withdrawn) The trackable optical disc of claim 54, further comprising a first solid substrate and a second solid substrate, each having a laser-distal side and a laser-proximal side, said first reflective surface disposed upon the laser-proximal side of said first solid substrate, said semireflective surface disposed upon the laser-distal side of said second solid substrate, said second solid substrate and said semireflective surface both being laser-proximal to said first solid substrate and first reflective surface.

56. (Withdrawn) The trackable optical disc of claim 55, wherein said nonoperational feature is disposed confocally with said semireflective surface.

**Appl. No.** : **09/311,329**  
**Filed** : **May 11, 1999**

57. (Withdrawn) The trackable optical disc of claim 56, wherein said nonoperational feature is disposed on the laser-distal side of said semireflective surface.

58. (Withdrawn) The trackable optical disc of claim 55, wherein said nonoperational feature is disposed confocally with said first reflective surface.

59. (Withdrawn) The trackable optical disc of claim 58, wherein said nonoperational feature is disposed on the laser-proximal side of said first reflective surface.

60. (Withdrawn) The trackable optical disc of claim 55, wherein said analyte-specific signal element is disposed between said first reflective surface and said semireflective surface.

61. (Withdrawn) The trackable optical disc of claim 50, wherein said trackable attribute includes a wobble groove.

62. (Withdrawn) The trackable optical disc of claim 61, wherein said nonoperational feature is disposed confocally with said wobble groove.

63. (Withdrawn) The trackable optical disc of claim 55, wherein said first and second substrates are reversibly separable.

64. (Withdrawn) A trackable optical disc system, comprising:  
a trackable optical disc according to claim 1; and  
an optical disc reader.

65. (Withdrawn) A trackable optical disc system, comprising:  
a trackable optical disc according to claim 50; and  
an optical disc reader.

66. (Withdrawn) A trackable optical disc system, comprising:  
a trackable optical disc assembly according to claim 35; and  
an optical disc reader.

67. (Withdrawn) A method of making a trackable optical disc having readable nonoperational data, comprising the step of: disposing a data-encoding nonoperational feature on an optical disc readably with a trackable attribute of said disc.

68. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 67, wherein said nonoperational feature is disposed confocally with said trackable attribute.

69. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 67, wherein said trackable attribute includes a wobble groove.

**Appl. No.** : **09/311,329**  
**Filed** : **May 11, 1999**

70. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 68, wherein said trackable attribute includes a wobble groove.

71. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 68, wherein said disc comprises a first solid substrate and a reflective surface, said first solid substrate having a laser-distal side and a laser-proximal side, wherein said first reflective surface is disposed upon the laser-proximal side of said first solid substrate, and said nonoperational feature is disposed upon the laser-proximal side of said first reflective surface.

72. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 69, wherein said disc comprises a first solid substrate and a reflective surface, said first solid substrate having a laser-distal side and a laser-proximal side, wherein said first reflective surface is disposed upon the laser-proximal side of said first solid substrate, and said nonoperational feature is disposed upon the laser-proximal side of said first reflective surface.

73. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 70, wherein said disc comprises a first solid substrate and a reflective surface, said first solid substrate having a laser-distal side and a laser-proximal side, wherein said first reflective surface is disposed upon the laser-proximal side of said first solid substrate, and said nonoperational feature is disposed upon the laser-proximal side of said first reflective surface.

74. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 68, wherein said disc comprises a first solid substrate, a reflective surface, and a light transmissive layer, said first solid substrate having a laser-distal side and a laser-proximal side, wherein said first reflective surface is disposed upon the laser-proximal side of said first solid substrate, said light transmissive layer is disposed upon the laser-proximal side of said reflective surface, and said nonoperational feature is disposed upon the laser-proximal side of said light transmissive layer.

75. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 69, wherein said disc comprises a first solid substrate, a reflective surface, and a light transmissive layer, said first solid substrate having a laser-distal side and a laser-proximal side, wherein said first reflective surface is disposed upon the laser-proximal side of said first solid substrate, said light transmissive layer is disposed upon the laser-proximal side of said reflective surface, and said nonoperational feature is disposed upon the laser-proximal side of said light transmissive layer.

76. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 70, wherein said disc comprises a first solid substrate, a reflective surface, and a light transmissive layer, said first solid substrate having a laser-distal side and a laser-proximal side, wherein said first reflective surface is disposed upon the laser-proximal side of said first solid substrate, said light transmissive layer is disposed upon the laser-proximal side of said reflective surface, and said nonoperational feature is disposed upon the laser-proximal side of said light transmissive layer.

77. (Withdrawn) A method of making trackable optical disc assembly having readable nonoperational data, comprising the steps of:

disposing a data-encoding nonoperational feature on the laser-distal side  
of a laser-refracting cover; and

attaching said cover to a disc having a first reflective surface with an attribute  
trackable by an optical disc reader;

wherein said data-encoding nonoperational feature is readable with said tracking  
attribute when said cover is attached to said disc.

78. (Withdrawn) A method of using an optical disc reader to read data encoded in a nonoperational feature of a disc, comprising the step of:

trackably reading the optical disc of claim 1 in said reader.

79. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 78, wherein said data are detectable in the optical disc reader's HF signal.

80. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 78, wherein said data includes dimensional information about the nonoperational feature.

81. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 78, wherein said nonoperational feature includes a wobble groove.

82. (Withdrawn) A method of segregating tracking signals from signals generated by readable nonoperational features disposed upon an optical disc, comprising:

disposing said nonoperational feature confocally with a trackable attribute that  
produces minimal variation in the HF signal during trackable reading of said optical disc.

83. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 82, wherein said trackable attribute includes a wobble groove.

**Appl. No.** : **09/311,329**  
**Filed** : **May 11, 1999**

84. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 83, wherein said nonoperational feature is disposed laser-proximal to said wobble groove.

85. (Canceled)

86. (Canceled)

87. (Previously Presented) The trackable optical disc of claim 1 wherein said analyte-specific signal element includes an antibody.

88. (Previously Presented) The trackable optical disc of claim 1 wherein said analyte-specific signal element includes a nucleic acid.

89. (Previously Presented) The trackable optical disc of claim 1 wherein said analyte-specific signal element is a cell.

90. (Canceled)

91. (Canceled)

92. (Withdrawn) The method of any one of claims 68-77, wherein said nonoperational feature is an analyte-specific signal element.